Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 OPIC-03 XMB-02 PA-01 /132 W

-----080238 191403Z /41

P 191319Z APR 78 FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2679 AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIALTELAVIV 05205

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, IS, EG

SUBJECT: ISRAELI PRODUCTION FROM ALMA FIELD

REFS: (A) STATE 034836, (B) TEL AVIV 4664

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FROM MFA AN AIDE MEMOIRE DATED APRIL 14 WITH FOLLOWING TEXT.

2. QUOTE:

IN RESPONSE TO YOUR AIDE MEMOIRE OF 23 FEBRU-ARY 1978, REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NEPTUNE OIL CO. IN THE GULF OF SUEZ, THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL WISHES TO RESTATE ITS POSITION THAT THESE ACTIVITIES ARE IN FULL ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. ISRAEL'S POSITION ON THIS ISSUE HAS BEEN SUPPORTED VERY RECENTLY BY LEADING LEGAL U.S. AUTHORITIES ON THE SUBJECT.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL IS AWARE THAT THERE IS A DISPUTE BETWEEN VARIOUS US COMPANIES AS REGARDS THE ISSUE; HOWEVER, THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF FURTHER OIL RESOURCES IS TO THE GENERAL ADVANTAGE OF THE AREA.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL WOULD FINALLY WISH TO REITERATE ITS POSITION THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF OIL RESOURCES IN THE AREA WILL IN NO WAY SERVE AS AN OBSTACLE TO THE ONGOING PEACE PROCESS.

END QUOTE.

3. THIS TEXT CONFIRMS POSITON GIVEN VERBALLY (REF B) BY MFA ASSISTANT LEGAL ADVISOR, WHO ALSO IDENTIFIED THE "LEADING US LEGAL AUTHROTIES", AS PROF. RICHARD BAXTER, WRITING IN A RECENT ISSUE OF THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING A COPY OF THE BAXTER ARTICLE. LEWIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PRODUCTION, PETROLEUM, WEST BANK, AIDE MEMOIRE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 19 apr 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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SAS ID: 2910551 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ISRAELI PRODUCTION FROM ALMA FIELD

TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, MARR, EG, IS To: STATE CAIRO

Type: TE

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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